

110 West Canal Street, Suite 202 Winooski, Vermont 05404 802-846-4490 www.ccrpcvt.org

R01-18-A-034

November 16, 2017

Frank Gardner EPA REGION I 5 Post Office Square Suite 100, Mail code: OSRR7-2 Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: Brownfields Assessment Grant Application, Petroleum & Hazardous Substances

Dear Mr. Gardner:

The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is pleased to submit this Brownfields Assessment Grant Application. Grant funding will enable our Chittenden County Brownfields Program to continue to provide assessment services for sites contaminated with petroleum and hazardous substances and will promote redevelopment of Brownfield properties.

The requested transmittal letter information is provided below:

- a) <u>Applicant Identification</u>: Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT 05404
- b) <u>Funding Requested</u>:
 - i) Grant type: Assessment
 - ii) Assessment Grant Type: Community-wide
 - iii) Federal funds requested: \$300,000
 - iv) Contamination: Petroleum (\$100,000) & Hazardous Substances (\$200,000)
- c) <u>Location</u>: Chittenden County, Vermont, specifically targeting the City of Burlington and the City of Winooski.
- d) Property Name and Address: Not applicable. This is a community-wide proposal.
- e) Contacts:
 - i) Project Director: Daniel Albrecht, Senior Planner Phone: (802) 861-0133, Fax: none, Email: dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT.

ii) Executive Director: Charlie Baker, Executive Director Phone: (802) 861-0115 Fax: none, Email: cbaker@ccrpcvt.org

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202, Winooski, VT.

f) Population:

- i) The 2015 estimated population of Chittenden County is 159,711.
- ii) The estimated populations of the targeted areas are:

Burlington -42,570

Winooski -7,223

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey)

iii) Neither Chittenden County nor the target communities are jurisdictions experiencing persistent poverty.

Our narrative proposal for this grant application as well as other documents are being submitted via grants.gov.

CCRPC and our partners look forward to continuing our work with US EPA and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to address Brownfields in our region.

If you have any questions about this application, please feel free to contact me at (802) 861-0115 or Daniel Albrecht at (802) 861-0133.

Sincerely,

Charles L. Baker Executive Director

Attachments

- -Regional Priorities Form
- -Other Factors Checklist
- -Letters from State Environmental Authority (Vermont DEC)

Regional Priorities Form

Name of Applicant: Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

Regional Priority

Region 1: Assistance to Communities That Have Limited In-House Capacity to Manage Brownfield Projects

Page Number(s): <u>5</u>

Other Factors Checklist

Other Factor	Page #
None of the Other Factors are applicable.	
Community population is 10,000 or less.	Winooski- 7,223
	Page 1
The jurisdiction is located within, or includes, a county experiencing "persistent poverty" where 20% or more of its population has lived in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates. Applicant is, or will assist, a federally recognized Indian tribe or United States territory. Targeted brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land.	
Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments.	page 8
Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the proposal and have included documentation.	pp. 10 -11
Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant	



AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

State of Vermont
Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management & Prevention Division
1 National Life Drive – Davis 1
Montpelier, VT 05620-3704
(802) 249-5822
Patricia.coppolino@vermont.gov

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Attn: Mr. Dan Albrecht 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202 Winooski, VT 05404 November 7, 2017

Dear Mr. Albrecht,

This letter will serve as acknowledgment that the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received notice that the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) intends to apply for a petroleum EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant and to use the grant funds, if awarded, to conduct general site assessment activities associated with the characterization of petroleum related brownfield properties within the CCRPC region of Vermont.

The State of Vermont is very appreciative of your programmatic successes and of your intent to apply for grant funding, as CCRPC's local involvement in the Brownfield Program continues to assist us in the inventory, assessment of properties and eventual redevelopment of brownfields in Vermont. The objectives of the assessments are appropriate and consistent and continue to progress the objectives of the Vermont Brownfields Program and we will assist in the petroleum determinations for the identified properties.

As you progress in your efforts with brownfield assessments, the Vermont DEC looks forward to working collaboratively with the CCRPC and to assist potential developers enter into the Vermont Brownfield Environmental Liability Limitation Program and Petroleum Cleanup Fund, through which additional cleanup funding is available.

Good luck in the competition.

Sincerely,

Patricia Coppolino, Environmental Program Manager

Brownfields Response Program

Waste Management and Prevention Division





AGENCY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

State of Vermont
Department of Environmental Conservation
Waste Management & Prevention Division
1 National Life Drive – Davis 1
Montpelier, VT 05620-3704
(802) 249-5822
Patricia.coppolino@vermont.gov

November 11, 2017

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission Attn: Mr. Dan Albrecht 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202 Winooski, VT 05404

Dear Mr. Albrecht,

This letter will serve as acknowledgment that the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has received notice that the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) intends to apply for a hazardous materials EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant and to use the grant funds, if awarded, to conduct general site assessment activities associated with the characterization of non-petroleum related brownfield properties within the CCRPC region of Vermont.

The State of Vermont is very appreciative of your programmatic successes and of your intent to apply for additional grant funding, as CCRPC's local involvement in the Brownfield Program continues to assist us in the assessment of properties in Vermont. The objectives of the assessments are appropriate and consistent and continue to progress the objectives of the Vermont Brownfields Program.

As you progress in your efforts with brownfield assessments, the Vermont DEC looks forward to working collaboratively with the CCRPC and to assist potential developers enter into the Vermont Brownfield Environmental Liability Limitation Program, through which additional cleanup funding is available.

Good luck in the competition.

Sincerely,

Patricia Coppolino, Environmental Program Manager

Brownfields Response Program

Waste Management and Prevention Division



1. COMMUNITY NEED (45 Points)

a. Targeted Area and Brownfields (15 points)

1.a.i. Community and Target Area Descriptions (5 points): Chittenden County (population, 159,711) is located in northwestern Vermont and consists of 19 municipalities comprising approximately 25% of the state's population. The Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) provides planning and technical assistance to these municipalities in the areas of Community Development, Transportation, Agriculture, Natural Resources, Housing, Economic Development, Telecommunications and Emergency Management. The CCRPC will focus our proposed activities in two target communities in the county, Burlington and Winooski, to address their most pressing problem: the lack of affordable housing. These cities have the highest urban density in the county and the State and are largely built out with little to no new undeveloped land available. Therefore, infill development is a key strategy to address the problem and thus there is a high demand for brownfields assessment funds.

<u>Burlington</u> (population 42,570), located on the shores of Lake Champlain, is the largest municipality in Vermont. Burlington's history includes being a lumber port, rail hub, and manufacturing center. Today it has a mix of small and medium service and manufacturing businesses and is a regional center for retail, higher education and health care. <u>Winooski</u> (population 7,223), adjacent to Burlington developed around textile mills built in the early 1800s along the Winooski River. Many of the mills have been rehabilitated for commercial and residential use, anchoring recent redevelopment activity in this small city.

1.a.ii. Demographic Information and Indicators of Need (5 points): Despite the relatively high level of business and retail activity in these two communities, sizable pockets of poverty exist in its more densely populated and older neighborhoods which were first developed in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Both Burlington and Winooski are also home to many new immigrant populations as part of the U.S. State Department's refugee resettlement program and has double the percentage of households in living below the poverty line compared to the nation and the state.

Ta	able 1 – 1	Demograj	phic In	formation

	Burlington	Winooski	Chittenden County Verme		National ³
Population ¹	42,570	7,223	159,711	626,604	316,127,513
Unemployment Rate ²	2.6%	2.5%	2.4%	2.9%	8.3%
Poverty Rate ¹	24.8%	26.1%	11.4%	11.5%	15.5%
Percent Minority ¹	14.8%	16.1%	9.4%	5.1 %	37.8%
Median Household Income ¹	\$44,671	\$45,974	\$65,350	\$55,176	\$53,889

¹ US Census Bureau, 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates factfinder.census.gov

While these target communities will be the focus of assessment activities, if funding permits we will also address sites in non-target communities that meet our site selection criteria (see page 7), particularly in village centers with aging housing and contaminated soils.

² VT Dept. of Labor, September 2017, unadjusted unemployment, <u>www.vtlmi.info/labforce.cfm</u> 3National Data copied from page 32 of grant guidelines document

<u>1.a.iii.</u> Description of the Brownfields (5 points): Brownfield sites in both cities are not just located in industrial areas, but are often found in the older neighborhoods and commercial avenues where low income populations are concentrated. CCRPC anticipates funding assessments and cleanup plans by Qualified Environmental Professionals (QEPs) at both public and private properties in <u>several areas that are targeted for redevelopment.</u>

- Burlington, Railyard Enterprise District: This 45-acre old industrial corridor is located just south of the City's downtown. Its redevelopment progress is hampered by the presence of twenty-four brownfields site as documented in Burlington's 2016 Area Wide Plan funded by EPA.
- Burlington, Main St. and South Winooski St. "Gateway Block & Memorial Auditorium": This 0.3-acre City-owned site is impacted by car oil leaks and possible UST releases. Now used as parking lot, it represents the City's best opportunity for significant mixed-use infill development in the downtown.
- Winooski, private parcels: The City of Winooski has identified three, private, autorelated blighted parcels (Winooski Auto, Northern Auto and Lesage Garage) on the city's main thoroughfares that present promising opportunities for mixed-used redevelopment with ground floor commercial and upper floors with residential apartments.
- Winooski, City-owned parcels: Four City parcels need assessment prior to redevelopment planning to transition to new community-based uses. These include a Community Center (a former supermarket site), a Public Works building and two empty lots near former mill sites.

While these areas have many of the known contaminated sites, our experience has shown that brownfields properties are omnipresent even in residential areas. For example, our 2012 tank inventory of Winooski identified 29 current USTs and historical records of 103 instances of USTs or potential USTs. No historic tank inventory has been conducted for Burlington; however, the city routinely encounters abandoned or orphan underground tanks (USTs) during sidewalk and road projects regardless of location. Using the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation's Waste Management, Burlington has 206 known sites (totaling over 60 acres), with 140 known sites identified with petroleum contamination; Winooski has 25 known sites (totaling approximately 48 acres), with 15 sites identified with petroleum contamination. In addition to the significant petroleum contamination, Burlington and Winooski have 66 sites and 10 active sites, respectively contaminated with hazardous substances. Therefore, given the abundance of sites, we will also solicit projects through extensive outreach with community groups, the real estate community and with Burlington and Winooski city staff.

b. Welfare, Environmental, and Public Health Impacts (15 points)

1.b.i. Welfare Impacts (5 points):

Although low relative to national data, Burlington and Winooski also have a much more ethnically diverse population than the rest of the county and the state due to an influx, since 1987, of approximately 6,500 refugees. Due to their disadvantaged economic circumstances coupled with a very expensive rental housing stock, they tend to be concentrated in neighborhoods with the oldest and poorest quality apartments located on or proximate to blighted properties including brownfields.

Areas in the target communities with a high concentration of brownfields are all impacted by quality of life issues related to deteriorating properties, vacant lots and criminal activity. Violent crime rates for Burlington and Winooski are approximately twice the county rate as shown in the following table:

Table 2 – Crime Rate Data

	2015 Violent Crime Rate	2015 Property Crime Rate
Burlington	0.0023	0.0344
Winooski	0.0026	0.0222
Chittenden County	0.0012	0.0213

Source: US Dept. of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Uniform Crime Reporting Statistics https://ucr.fbi.gov/

Vandalism, larceny, theft, and drug/narcotics violations are among the most frequent crimes and are largely related to opportunity and the character of the physical environment; blight, vacant and underutilized properties contribute to both conditions.

1.b.ii. Cumulative Environmental Issues (5 points): The cities' industrial pasts have led to other costly environmental impacts. Due to impairment of local streams, both cities are subject to a NPDES Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System permit required by EPA and administered by Vermont DEC. Impervious surfaces cause high peak stormwater flows and combined sewer overflows causing closures of local public beaches due to E. Coli. Both Cities are currently spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on upgrades to municipal sewer plants and stormwater management infrastructure to come into compliance with the newly enacted Vermont Clean Water Act and EPA's pending Lake Champlain Total Maximum Daily Load permit for phosphorus reduction.

Located at the heart of Vermont's most populous County, both cities suffer from the air quality impacts of weekday commuter and truck trips and heavy retail weekend traffic. Winooski, which only measures 1.5 square miles, hosts U.S. Routes 2 and 7 and State Route 15 has Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) of 15,000 – 18,00 while U.S. Interstate 89 transits through both cities with an AADT of 50,000.

1.b.iii. Cumulative Public Health Impacts (5 points):

<u>In our work we find a recurring pattern of contamination in Burlington and Winooski.</u> Every property has some degree of *polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAH)* and *arsenic* in the soils due to centuries of coal and wood used for heating. Properties are also often contaminated with varying degrees of *lead*, *zinc* and *Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH)* and we often find abandoned underground fuel tanks.

Not only is the soil contaminated but the buildings themselves can present a health risk. Almost 80% of homes in Burlington and over 85% of homes in Winooski were built before 1979 and are therefore susceptible to lead paint contamination. Both Cities have aggressive lead paint abatement programs, but the problem is still widespread. In 2012, of 2,532 children tested in Chittenden County by the VT Dept. of Health, 128 had elevates blood lead levels greater than or equal to 5 μ g/dL and 7 had levels greater than or equal to 10 μ g/dL. Also as **Table 3** clearly demonstrates that, in both Burlington and Winooski poverty rates for children, families, single mothers and the elderly are dramatically higher than the County and the State.

These populations have limited residential choices often living in the older neighborhoods and thus more susceptible to contaminant exposure from nearby brownfields.

Gasoline and petroleum are present in soils and groundwater from gas stations and leaks from underground and aboveground storage tanks (UST & AST). This can lead to contaminated soils and possible groundwater contamination from Petro-Benzene, Lead Tetraethyl and MTBE, as well as toxicity resulting from dermal contact and ingestion. There are also possible inhalation impacts from vapor intrusion into buildings. Typical Hazardous Substance contamination includes polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, arsenic and lead, solvent contamination and asbestos and heavy metals while older homes have lead paint and PCB in their building materials.

Due to Vermont's small size, health data below the county level is unavailable. However, even this data indicates the challenges faced by vulnerable populations especially women. In addition to the threat of lead poisoning noted above, women in the County suffer from cancer overall and for certain cancers in particular, at higher rates than women nationally.

Table 3 – Sensitive Populations

1.		nuve i opui			
	Burlington	Winooski	Chittenden County	Vermont	National
Percent Minority (non-white) ¹	14.8%	16.1%	9.4%	5.1 %	36.7%
Children <18 in poverty ¹	23.7%	38.6%	11.9%	15.1%	21.6%
Families w/children in poverty ¹	23.2%	31.4%	10.8%	13.2%	17.8%
Families w/ female householder, no husband present w/children in poverty	52.2%	60.3%	35.8%	36.7%	40%
Population, age 65+1	10.1%	9.9%	11.8%	15.2%	13.4%
Population, age 65+ in poverty ¹	10.1%	17.4%	5.8%	7.2%	9.4%

¹US Census Bureau, 2011-2015, American Community Survey 5-year Estimates, http://factfinder2.census.gov

Table 4 – Cancer Incidence Rates per 100,000 people per year, 2010-2014

			<u> </u>	<u> </u>		
	All cancer, male	All cancer, female	Breast, female	Lung & Bronchus, female	Uterus, female	Melanoma of the skin, female
Chittenden County	505.7	438.4	147.1	62.2	29.4	27.8
Vermont	486.2	432.6	130.1	59.7	32.8	25.2
National	490.9	411.1	123.5	52.6	25.9	16.4

State Cancer Profiles, National Cancer Institute and Center for Disease Control, statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov

Chittenden County and Vermont both had a 10% rate of adults with asthma in 2016 (*Vermont Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System*), above the national rate of 9%. Statewide, those in homes with low annual incomes (less than \$25K) have an 17% asthma rate, which is significantly higher than the 8% rate for people earning higher \$50K-\$75K.

1.c. Financial Need (15 points)

1.c.i. Economic Conditions (5 points): Our priority is to assist non-profit and private developers with redevelopment of derelict buildings into high-density residential and mixed use. The demand for the services provided by our Program is high. While CCRPC does receive federal transportation planning funds and state funds for land use and natural resources planning, they are limited in their allowed scope and inadequate to contract with QEPs to conduct needed assessments. Since our FY16 grant started in October 2016, we have already provided more than \$140,000 in assessment and/or cleanup planning assistance to 11 sites and will be assigning QEPs to work at least 3 more sites this November 2017. The need remains acute.

Chittenden County communities have small populations and correspondingly small budgets. The City of Burlington has had to cut back dramatically on staff hours assigned to brownfields work. Winooski, due to its small size and low property tax base, lacks the municipal resources and capacity to manage a Brownfields program. The CCRPC provides these communities the opportunity to advance redevelopment projects that they would not be able to do on their own. Vermont municipalities are dependent on local property taxes and have tried to keep budgets low in response to regular annual increases in education property taxes which are assessed on a statewide basis. This makes it difficult for municipalities to raise additional local funds via taxes to assist with brownfields assessment. Vermont has no county government by which to levy taxes, thus eliminating another potential source of funds and staff for assessment.

<u>Vermont DEC</u> has limited EPA Brownfields funds for assessment as they have shifted their funding priorities to clean up, relying on regional planning commissions such as CCRPC to do instead. Vermont's Petroleum Cleanup Fund (PCF) reimburses property owners for some costs related to petroleum tank assessment and cleanup but due to high demand the PCF periodically runs out of funds, stalling progress on PCF-eligible sites.

1.c.ii. Economic Effects of Brownfields (10 points): The location of brownfields on existing lots (for example, old single-family homes or a best a duplex) that have the potential for higher density apartment construction keeps housing availability low. Burlington and Winooski have suffered from an extremely low rental vacancy rate since 2000. The communities' vacancy rate was 2.5% in June 2017, and the average vacancy rate since 2000 is 1.7%. A "healthy" rental market has a vacancy rate of 3-5% (*Allen, Brooks and Minor Report, June 2017*).

Affordable housing means a household spends 30% of less of their income on housing expenses. Based on 2016 American Community Survey estimates for Chittenden County, 33% of households with a mortgage have housing expenses exceeding 30 percent of their income, while 56% of renter households have housing expenses exceeding 30 percent of their income. Allen, Brooks and Minor report that in 2016, rental rates in Chittenden County for 1-bedroom and 2-bedroom units without utilities averaged \$1,033 and \$1,281 per month, respectively.

As shown in a 2010 analysis by Burlington's Community and Economic Development Office, this reality in reflected in the lack of affordable rental properties for those in lower income brackets. Their analysis showed there are 3,310 households earning 0-30% Annual Median Income (AMI) but only 850 units that are affordable to these households, resulting in a deficit of 2,460 apartments. In the 30-50% AMI bracket there are 2,330 households but only 1,835 affordable apartments, leaving a deficit of 495 units.

Rental housing, typically converted 1-2 story homes have a median year built of 1949 in Burlington and 1947 in Winooski. Despite the aging condition of the housing stock, monthly rents have risen at an average annual rate of 3% from 2000 to 2017, according to the real estate research firm of *Allen, Brooks and Minor*. Families with children, who already suffer from higher rates of poverty, are more affected by rising rents: rents for 3-bedroom apartments have risen 4.1% per year over the same time period.

Although no studies have been conducted to explicitly quantify the economic impact of brownfields in Chittenden County, the impacts are very real. Underutilization of brownfield properties also reduces potential property tax revenues in these communities and the presence of these blighted properties reduces the overall tax base. Despite the potential to construct multi-unit apartment buildings on small lots in high-density zoned residential areas in both cities, most developers and investors are reluctant to incur the significant additional cost and risk required in redevelopment of brownfields property in Burlington and Winooski. By stymieing redevelopment, brownfield contamination causes developers to look at "greenfield" properties in suburban and rural areas which contributes to sprawl and increases divestment in the two cities especially in their poorer neighborhoods.

2. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND FEASIBILITY OF SUCCESS (55 Points)

a. Project Description, Redevelopment Strategy, and Timing and Implementation (30 points)

<u>2.a.i. Project Description and Alignment with Revitalization Plans (12 points):</u> CCRPC began its Brownfields Program in 2006 utilizing EPA funds to assist property owners and prospective brownfield developers with environmental site assessments, and cleanup planning. Our focus has been to promote <u>equitable redevelopment</u> by helping to jump-start affordable housing, mixed income housing and mixed-use projects with a secondary effort on property rehabilitation for commercial use or greenspace. The proposal will implement municipal plans and our regional plan and build upon the momentum established by our various municipal partners, non-profit housing developers and the private sector.

Coupled with our awareness of the Cities' redevelopment goals, we have identified several candidate sites/areas identified below. Therefore, over the life of the proposed grant we predict contracting as follows: Six Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESA); Three Archeological Reconnaissance or Assessments; Eight Phase II ESAs and Eight Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) / Corrective Action Plans (CAP).

Burlington's 2013 <u>Downtown and Waterfront Plan</u> states <u>with regards to the "Gateway Block</u> <u>& Memorial Auditorium":</u> The re-development of the block ...will help to act as both an anchor and gateway to the downtown. A renovated and/or re-purposed Memorial Auditorium and possibly fire station would serve as a destination at the eastern end of the activated Main Street. The corner parcel could be transformed from a parking lot to a new mixed-use building with ground-floor retail, creating a more interesting and activated street to help encourage pedestrian activity. Upper floors could be used for offices, apartments, or student housing."

2013 EPA Brownfields Area Wide Planning Grant to the City of Burlington focused on redevelopment of the Railyard Enterprise District which forms part of the City's "South End." Conditions analysis included in the Plan (concluded in 2016) identified twenty-four brownfield

sites. The Plan guides "the development and implementation of the City's brownfield sites along the Pine Street corridor as a means to improve the quality of life for Burlington residents, stimulate economic growth and development, and support the improvement and impact transportation options. This Plan will ultimately inform the assessment, clean-up and subsequent reuse of the designated sites."

The 2009 Winooski Municipal Development Plan calls for additional employment activities and retail uses to serve the local community and new high-density housing for a wide range of household incomes. Assessment and cleanup planning of some of the three private, autorelated parcels and four city-owned parcels will help to implement the Plan.

<u>Using our HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC)</u> grant the CCRPC developed its 2013 Regional Plan termed "ECOS- Environment, Community, Opportunity, Sustainability" calls for investment in areas planned for growth actions including targeting reuse, rehabilitation, infill, redevelopment, and brownfield investments. The Plan identifies two critical economic development issues relevant for our Brownfields assessment program:

(1) businesses face a shortage of appropriate development sites in the county, and (2) the high cost and severe shortage of housing are obstacles to workforce recruitment and retention.

2.a.ii. Redevelopment Strategy (5 points)

Based upon recent experience, we anticipate that the projects this FY18 grant would support will be stand-alone apartment buildings or mixed residential/commercial buildings with varying percentages of designated affordable units managed by a non-profit. These are the greatest need and also in high demand. In deed our project selection process incorporates these concepts for example, by fully funding ESAs and CAPs needed by non-profit housing developers. These projects will be well-served by existing infrastructure in Burlington and Winooski which have comprehensive existing infrastructure of water, sewer, electric, natural gas and telecommunications along with bus service and a rapidly expanding network of designated bike and pedestrian paths and travel lanes.

<u>2.a.iii.Timing and Implementation (13 points)</u>: CCRPC's Brownfields Manager, Dan Albrecht, will have overall responsibility to be sure these tasks are carried out on schedule.

(a) Contractor Procurement (3 points) In year one of the grant, we will reestablish our pool of qualified environmental professionals (QEP) and archeological firms which was last done in mid-2016. This will include updating the Request for Qualifications, screening Statements of Qualifications (SOQs), and then work with our Advisory Committee to review and select firms.

(b) Site Inventory/Identification/Prioritization/Selection (5 points)

In year one we will continue outreach to neighborhood groups, real estate developers and municipal local officials to obtain commitments to move forward with studies on the parcels noted above and to identify additional assessment-ready properties. After public outreach but before the formal, final site selection and project scoping process begins, sites must submit an Assistance Request Form with details on the proposed end use. CCRPC then asks VT-DEC for an eligibility determination for petroleum sites and/or an EPA eligibility determination for hazardous sites before further action.

Our formal <u>Principles for Site Selection</u> approved by our Advisory Committee are as follows: 1) sites should be located in areas that have existing infrastructure and provide community benefits and 2) reuse of the property should support local and/or regional goals for housing,

economic development or open space. Our <u>Principles for Phase II Assessments and Corrective Action Planning</u> are 1) the owner/developer has at least a rough plan for reuse of the site, so we can set the appropriate level of assessment and corrective action.); 2) the owner/developer is committed to community involvement in redevelopment planning and 3) the anticipated cost of the study is within the program's budget or ability to leverage other assistance programs. <u>Finally, we and our Advisory Committee then weigh factors such as the project's contribution towards affordable housing, jobs, commercial square footage and its ownership (public or private) and its final intended use (e.g. market rate vs. affordable housing, public use, etc.) to determine how much of the cost for the ESA or CAP our grant funds should support. The more housing units involved in a project the higher the score.</u>

Based upon our experience with prior grants we anticipate that we will issue contracts for Phase II ESAs and CAPS starting right in year one due to the anticipated high demand. In year two, continued ESA and CAPs are anticipated followed by intensive involvement with the community to report the results of the ESAs and obtain input on the draft ABCA/CAPs. In year three, we will work with the cities and with the non-profit and/or private partners to integrate this community input and finalize CAPS for individual sites that are consistent with the regional plan and the cities' plan. We will then assist by researching financing and grant options to assist with clean-up.

(c) Obtaining and securing site access (5 points)

As a condition of receipt of assistance, since the start of our Program in 2006 we have required parties seeking our assistance to sign both a Participation Agreement and a Site Access Agreement. This enables our QEPs and assigned VT-DEC staff to access the property.

b. Task Descriptions and Budget Table (20 points)

2.b.i. Task Descriptions (15 points):

Note: for budget estimating, time split equally within each task between CCRPC's Senior Planner and Planner and at 1(Petro)-to-2(Haz) ratio.

<u>Task 1 – Cooperative Agreement Oversight: 120 hours (Petro) & 240 hours (Haz)</u> Tasks include quarterly and final reporting to EPA, updating the ACRES database, and recordkeeping. Attendance for one staff to attend one National Brownfields Conference (travel/ lodging/ fees/meals, \$600-Petro and \$1,000-Haz) and Vermont/regional Brownfields workshops/trainings (mileage: \$200-Petro and \$600-Haz).

<u>Task 2 – Community Engagement: 60 hours (Petro) & 120 hours (Haz)</u> Staff will develop materials for and provide support to four Brownfields Advisory Committee meetings per year Three outreach meetings/events are planned per year. Contractual costs (\$530-Petro, \$1,060-Haz) including paying for booth/table space at appropriate housing/development conferences, for renting community and/or for translation services as needed. Outreach materials (e.g., brochure, presentations, and website pages) will be updated as needed. costs are low (\$60-Petro/\$120-Haz) due to our Winooski office location, our proximity to Burlington and use of CCRPC's electric cars.

<u>Task 3 – Site Assessment Activities: 120 hours (Petro) & 240 hours (Haz)</u> A new consultant solicitation and selection process are necessary. This effort, includes updating and publishing the RFQ, screening Statements of Qualifications (SOQs), preparing SOQ scoring sheets for the Advisory Committee, staff support for review meetings and interviews. Site identification and

selection activities include meetings with municipal staff, community groups, property owners or developers. Staff will evaluate known issues, assessment needs and site eligibility and assist property owners in preparing application forms and program agreements. Project management includes coordinating with contractors, site owners, state regulators and EPA; reviewing proposals, Quality Assurance Protection Plans, Archeological reports, Phase I and II reports; and coordinating site-specific public outreach related to assessment. Travel costs are low (\$60-Petro/\$120-Haz) due to our Winooski office location, our proximity to Burlington and use of CCRPC's electric cars. The estimated budget for proposed site assessment contractual costs is as follows:

Type of Assessment	# Petro	Petro \$	# Haz	Haz \$			
Phase I Environmental Site Assessment@\$3,000	2	\$6,000	4	\$12,000			
Archeological reconnaissance/assessment@\$3,000	1	\$3,000	2	\$6,000			
Phase II Environmental Site Assessment@\$24,000	2	\$48,000	5	\$120,000			
*Phase II ESA, partially funded @\$17,000	1	\$17,000	-	n/a			
* Based upon our 10 years of experience, at least 1 ESA would only be partially funded.							

Less Phase I ESA's are required as some potential developers have already done this or will pay for it themselves. We conduct archeological investigations at the request of the VT Dept. of Historic Preservation but only if the location is suspected of prior human occupation.

Task 4 – Site Reuse and Cleanup Planning – 60 hours (Petro) & 120 hours (Haz)

Staff time includes management of contractors, coordination with local and state officials, review of proposals and draft and final Corrective Action Plans, and arranging for site-specific public outreach. Travel costs are low (\$60-Petro/\$120-Haz) due to our Winooski office location, our proximity to Burlington and use of CCRPC's electric cars. The estimated budget for ABCA/CAP contractual costs @ \$5,000 per site is 2 Petroleum Sites totaling \$10,000 and 6 Hazardous Substance sites totaling \$25,000.

<u>2.b.ii. Budget Table (5 points)</u> **Tables 5a & 5b** show the budget over the 3-year life of the proposed grant. Rates for personnel are Senior Planner @\$33.56/hr. and Planner @\$24.62/hr. with fringe rates, respectively of \$13.08/hr. and \$9.24/hr.

	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4	
Category	Cooperative Agreement Oversight	Community Engagement	Site Assessment Activities	Site Reuse and Cleanup Planning	Total
Personnel	\$3,491	\$1,745	\$3,491	\$1,745	\$10,472
Fringe Benefits	\$1,339	\$670	\$1,339	\$670	\$4,018
Travel	\$800	\$60	\$60	\$60	\$980
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Contractual	\$0	\$530	\$74,000	\$10,000	\$84,530
Total	\$5,630	\$3,005	\$78,890	\$12,475	\$100,000

Table 5a – Petroleum Assessment Grant Budget

	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3	Task 4		
Category	Cooperative Agreement Oversight	Community Engagement	Site Assessment Activities	Site Reuse and Cleanup Planning	Total	
Personnel	\$6,982	\$3,491	\$6,982	\$3,491	\$20,945	
Fringe Benefits	\$2,678	\$1,339	\$2,678	\$1,339	\$8,035	
Travel	\$1,600	\$120	\$120	\$120	\$1,960	
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Contractual	\$0	\$1,060	\$138,000	\$30,000	\$169,060	
Total	\$11,260	\$6,010	\$147,780	\$34,950	\$200,000	

Table 5b - Hazardous Substances Assessment Grant Budget

2.c. <u>Ability to Leverage (5 points)</u> CCRPC receives an annual allocation of land use planning funds from VT Agency of Commerce & Community Development (ACCD) and transportation planning funds from the Federal Highway Administration with which we assist municipalities on numerous issues that intersect with brownfields redevelopment. From these funds, CCRPC will leverage its past and future activities and along with the leverage provided by staff and resources by the City of Burlington and the City of Winooski to bring long-term plans to fruition and also complete new projects.

Over the past three years, CCRPC staff spent more than 1,000 hours managing the Railyard Enterprise Project (REP), a \$360,937 FHWA/VT Agency of Transportation/City of Burlington funded transportation Scoping/Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) project. The purpose of the REP is to develop a network of multimodal transportation infrastructure improvements in the Pine Street and Battery Street area to support economic development in the area; improve Livability of the surrounding neighborhoods; enhance multimodal travel connectivity; and improve intermodal connections to the Burlington Railyard, a National Highway System (NHS)-designated intermodal facility.

The first phase of the REP Scoping/PEL was completed in 2016 first, with the selection of three REP alternatives to advance into NEPA followed by supplemental scoping of the simplest of the three alternatives to determine the feasibility of implementation using only state and local funds. This supplemental work will be completed by June 2018 with a determination by VAOT and the City on whether to move forward with implementation of the selected alternative without using Federal funds. For FY19, the CCRPC anticipates providing at least 100 hours of technical assistance (using non-EPA funds) to the City as the REP moves into the NEPA process.

Additionally, the City of Burlington will assist CCRPC's brownfields work in the REP with approximately 36 hours of staff time in each of FY19, FY20 and FY21 to assure the needed Cleanup and redevelopment is consistent with the vision of the City's Comprehensive Plan (*aka PlanBTV*) and FHWA's Preferred Alternative for the REP.

For the Gateway Block and Memorial Auditorium, the City of Burlington will commit a minimum of 36 hours annually in both FY19 and FY20 to develop and implement public engagement process to inform the Cleanup Planning and redevelopment process (cf. attached).

CCRPC has been assisting the City of Winooski with the adoption of Form Based Code zoning in its three major road corridors. From FY14 through FY16 CCRPC provided over 450 hours of staff time and procured \$60,000 of consultant expenses. Adopted in 2016, this Code facilitates brownfields redevelopment by increasing density, reducing parking, improving aesthetics and increasing housing type diversity.

Since 2016, the CCRPC has helped to spearhead an educational campaign on the need for additional housing supply in Chittenden County http://www.ecosproject.com/building-homes-together/. This issue impacts not only residents, but also slows our economic growth as this was the second biggest reason employers give for not being able to increase their workforce. The cost of construction, brownfields issues and regulatory obstacles hinder additional housing development. Therefore, CCRPC will start working with local leaders, housing groups and residents to better understand the existing situation and develop solutions to produce additional housing. CCRPC plans to spend 200 hours in FY19 and 200 hours in FY20 on this campaign using non-EPA funds.

CCRPC has strong working relationships with the VT Agency of Commerce & Community
Development (ACCD) and the VT Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to help
access clean up and/or development funds, such as ACCD Brownfields Revolving Loan Funds
and Petroleum Clean-up Funds, HUD Community Development Block Grants and Brownfields
Economic Development grants, EPA Brownfields Clean Up Grants, DEC Brownfields
Technical Assistance Grants, VT Downtown and Historic Preservation Tax Credits. [See
attached letter from ACCD for details on their commitment.]

We also leverage in-kind services from our Brownfields Advisory Committee (see description below in 3.c.i.) who represent a wide variety of fields. The Committee includes 9 members, representing municipalities, business and economic development groups, environmental and public health. Assuming an average attendance of 7 of 9 members for four, 90-minute meetings every year over 3 years yields a total of at least 126 member-hours not including time spent reviewing and commenting upon draft Quality Assurance Protection Plans, ESAs, and CAPs.

3. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS (35 Points)

3.a. Engaging the Community (15 points)

3.a.i. Community Involvement Plan (10 points): Our first efforts will be to work with neighborhood residents, community leaders, local property owners and small businesses to prioritize the assessment work. The CCRPC has completed a demographic profile of Chittenden County and its service area, including detailed mapping of limited English proficiency (LEP), low income, and non-white populations. Public outreach will be tailored to meet the needs of the site and the surrounding community, and may range from formal presentations to follow-up discussions with individuals. However, the best way to reach residents of distressed neighborhoods, particularly recent immigrants who often do not feel comfortable participating in formal, public meetings is to engage them wherever they are, for example setting up informational tables at weekend farmer's markets and local community events. Given the special language needs of the many immigrant communities CCRPC provides translation for written outreach materials and at meetings. Last, the diverse membership of our Advisory Committee is a key mechanism to gather community input by

providing useful contacts in the both real estate development community and within local neighborhoods and by helping us to fine tune our outreach efforts.

3.a.ii. Communicating Progress (5 points): We will report progress at community events and via multi-lingual flyers and interviews on local public television programs. More formally, CCRPC will use its website (https://www.ccrpcvt.org/our-work/economic-development/brownfields/ to report project progress and post copies of final assessments and cleanup & redevelopment plans. We will dovetail our outreach efforts with those of Burlington and Winooski to maximize public participation and information.

3.b. Partnerships with Government Agencies (9 points)

3.b.i. Local/State/Tribal Environmental Authority (5 points): We have a strong working relationship with both EPA Region I staff in Boston and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC's) Brownfields program. The DEC focuses its efforts on three areas: limitation of environmental liability; technical assistance; and financial assistance. We communicate regularly with our EPA Project Officer and with DEC staff on such issues as site eligibility, assessment scopes of work, progress of assessments, data interpretation, and potential issues for cleanup and redevelopment. The DEC Brownfields Coordinator is also an ex officio member of our Brownfields Advisory Committee. For each project, DEC assigns a Project Manager with whom we are in regular contact with during the duration of the effort.

<u>ii. Other Governmental Partnerships (4 points):</u> We work closely with the <u>Vermont Department of Health</u> (VDH) which provides insight into public health and risk communication. The state's Health Risk Assessor is a Committee member and is especially valuable for analysis of sampling strategies. The <u>Vermont Agency of Commerce & Community Development</u> participates on our Advisory Committee and identifies clean-up fund options. We also work with its Division of Historic Preservation to address cultural and historic preservation issues.

Staff makes regular presentations about current projects to the CCRPC Commissioners who are appointed by our 19 member-municipalities. One Commissioner and one Alternate Commissioner are also participating on our Advisory Committee as well. Strong partnerships are already in place with staff of the City of Winooski and Burlington's Community and Economic Development Office (CEDO) to both identify potential new sites and design mechanisms for involving municipal boards (e.g., governing bodies, Planning and/or Conservation Commissions) and the public.

3.c. Partnerships with Community Organizations (9 points)

<u>3.c.i.</u> Community Organization Descriptions & Roles (5 points): The organizations below form the nucleus of our Brownfields Advisory Committee.

<u>Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation</u>—GBIC is a non-profit economic development corporation primarily supported by Chittenden County <u>businesses and municipalities</u>. GBIC provides insight on business community concerns and access to an extensive network of business contacts, including realtors, developers and lenders. GBIC has committed to assistance in marketing the program, and assisting project developers with redevelopment.

<u>Lake Champlain Basin Program</u> – LCBP is a regional organization that works with federal, state and provincial agencies and partners to benefit the <u>environment</u>, <u>recreation and cultural resources</u> in the Lake Champlain basin. LCBP will provide technical expertise in evaluating environmental quality issues.

<u>Marcel Beaudin, Architect Emeritus</u> – Mr. Beaudin is a CCRPC Alternate Commissioner and brings decades of property development experience to the table.

<u>University of Vermont</u> – Located in Burlington, UVM is the state's public university. Dr. Bose from the Dept. of Geography is an expert in urban and cultural geography, environmental justice and immigrant communities. He will assist in designing general and site-specific public outreach and engagement activities.

<u>Redstone Commercial Group</u> – Redstone is one of the Vermont's most innovative and progressive firms and has been active in the development of residential and commercial real estate (including brownfields sites) in Chittenden County for over 20 years and will provide key insight into the challenges of brownfields redevelopment.

<u>Champlain Housing Trust (CHT) (key local partner but not an Advisory Committee member)</u> – CHT is a local non-profit providing a wide range of affordable housing opportunities and mixed-use development in underserved areas of the community. CHT developed two projects in Burlington that were selected as *EPA Region 1 Success Stories* as well as the 42-unit Bright Street Housing Co-op brought to fruition with the assistance of our FY10 Assessment grant. CHT has committed to assistance with identify and redevelop additional Brownfield sites.

The City of Burlington, the City of Winooski, the Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development and the Vermont Department of Health also serve on our Committee. Their commitments are noted in the attached Leverage Resources documentation.

- <u>3.c.ii.</u> Letters of Commitment (4 points): All the organizations identified above with the exception of the CHT are providing staff persons as members of our Advisory Committee. Their attached letters provide additional detail. Note that Vermont Department of Health staff serve on our Committee but are prohibited from writing such letters.
- **3.d** Partnerships with Workforce Development Programs (2 points) After consultant selection, we will organize meetings between these firms, neighborhood groups, local construction trade groups and the Lake Champlain Workforce Collaborative to develop a partnership for employment in brownfields remediation services and general construction labor.

4. PROJECT BENEFITS (25 Points)

a. Welfare, Environmental, and Public Health Benefits (13 points) Redevelopment (via removal of dilapidated rental housing stock and replacement with higher density new construction) will increase availability of new affordable housing units, spur local business activity and increase the economic and social vibrancy of these neighborhoods. Crime rates will be reduced as blighted properties are removed and a greater sense of community is fostered. The overall health of residents will improve as exposure to lead paint, asbestos and PCBs in older building materials and to contaminated soils is eliminated. This will reduce the high incidence of cancer and asthma seen in women and low-income populations.

As Corrective Action Plans are implemented contaminated soils will be removed or capped, underground storage tanks will be removed, and chemical and/or petroleum vapor intrusion or groundwater contamination will be mitigated. Cleanup will also aid in the restoration of stormwater impaired streams by reducing runoff from contaminated soils. Higher density

development will also facilitate the expansion of transit services which in turn will lower overall air pollution caused by single occupancy vehicles.

New zoning rules in Burlington allow flexibility in dimensional requirements to make it easier to build on brownfields sites. Winooski's 2016 adoption of Form Based Codes increases density on small, urban lots and also reduce parking requirements. The CCRPC, through its 2013 regional "ECOS" Plan "Ecology-Community-Opportunity-Sustainability" encourages land use and transportation projects that value walkable neighborhoods; a mix of housing types and affordability and infill redevelopment that prioritizes brownfields remediation.

Our Brownfields program prioritizes sites "located in areas that have existing infrastructure and provide community benefits." The target communities selected are urban locations with existing infrastructure and public transit (both rare in Vermont). By providing more mixed income housing opportunities, the proposal will support and value the existing immigrant communities and low-income neighborhoods while reducing concentrations of poverty.

4.b. Economic and Community Benefits (12 points) If new funds are obtained, we can replicate such successes as the Bright Street Housing Co-op (44 units), Browns Court (104 units) and 316 Flynn Avenue (36 units) now under construction (see 5.c.2 below). The grant will help create new affordable housing, mixed-income housing and mixed-use buildings typically at higher densities than currently exists. This will increase the overall housing stock and commercial opportunity in these cities, raise property values, increase the tax base and provide new job opportunities in low-income neighborhoods.

5. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFOMANCE (40 Points)

- **5.a. Audit Findings (2 points)** CCRPC has never had adverse findings including for its most recent single audit for FY17 of \$5 million in Federal, state and local funds. The auditor found that CCRPC qualified as a "low-risk auditee."
- **5.b. Programmatic Capability (23 points):** Dan Albrecht, Senior Planner, is the CCRPC's Brownfields Program Director with 6 years of direct experience managing QEPs and 15 years of municipal/regional planning experience. In addition, he has over 20 years of experience managing other Federal environmental grants. Emily Nosse-Leirer, CCRPC Planner has 1.3 years of Brownfields management experience. They maintain their knowledge and skills through conferences, training and networking with other Brownfields professionals.
- 5. c. Measuring Environmental Results: Anticipated Outputs and Outcomes (5 points)

<u>Project outcomes</u> will be tracked in terms of sites assessed and cleanup plans produced and reported through ACRES. Long term outcomes will be monitored through ongoing contact with the cities. <u>Project outputs</u> will be measured, tracked and documented monthly in CCRPC's project management software and in quarterly progress reports and property profile information entered in the ACRES database. These will include assessment reports and cleanup plans prepared by our contractors as well as photos and other media.

- **5.d.** Past Performance and Accomplishments (10 points)
- i. Currently or Has Ever Received an EPA Brownfields Grant (10 points)

 5 d i 1 Accomplishments (5 points). The CCRPC has received 4 EPA Brownfields A

<u>5.d.i.1. Accomplishments (5 points)</u> The CCRPC has received 4 EPA Brownfields Assessment grants.

Table 6 – Previous Brownfields Assessment Grants

Grant #	Award Fiscal Year	Туре	Funds Expended	* Funds Remaining	** Anticipated expenditure Oct-Dec 2017	Sites assessed / Sites cleaned-up
BF-00A00214	2016	Petroleum*	\$35,006	\$164,996	~\$50,000	2 / t.b.d
Status: Open	2010	Hazardous*	\$96,902	\$103,098	~\$30,000	9 / t.b.d
BF-96131101-0	2010	Petroleum	\$184,051	-\$0-	N/A	7 / 5
Status: Closed	2010	Hazardous	\$193,650	-\$0-	N/A	4/3
BF-97165901-0 Status: Closed	2008	Hazardous	\$184,853	-\$0-	N/A	2/2
BF-97160001-0 Status: Closed	2006	Petroleum	\$199,950	-\$0-	N/A	2/2

^{*} as of Sept 30, 2017. ** Estimate based upon current requests

Key accomplishments, all located in Burlington unless otherwise noted, include:

<u>0 Browns Court:</u> Phases I & II and archeological; Construction of 104-unit apartment complex underway with completion planned in early 2018.

<u>316 Flynn Avenue:</u> Phase II and CAP; 30-unit apartment complex with 3,000 SF of commercial underway with completion planned in late 2017.

<u>207 Flynn Avenue:</u> Phase II Supplemental; 14,000 SF cooperative grocery store, teaching kitchen, community space, café, and leased office space opening November 2017. <u>Richmond Creamery (Richmond):</u> Phases I and II and archeological assessments and Corrective Action Feasibility Investigation; mixed use building to be completed in 2018. <u>27, 35-37 and 47 Bright St.</u> Phase II and archeological; Champlain Housing Trust completed 44-unit affordable housing complex in 2016.

<u>237 No. Winooski Ave.</u> Phase II and archeological and CAP; Developer completed construction of mixed use building with 28 apartments and 1,500 SF commercial space in 2015. <u>Jacob Parcel (Williston)</u> Phases I ESA to aid Town purchase of riverfront property for park. <u>Waterfront North:</u> Phase II and archeo assessments; CAP; and Soil monitoring; construction of a new skate park, constructed wet lands, bikepath upgrades and public parking in 2015.

<u>5.d.i.2.</u> Compliance with Grant Requirements (5 points): CCRPC has submitted all required work plans, quarterly progress reports, MBE/WBE reports, and annual financial reports as well as all QAPPs, ESA's and CAPS on a timely basis. The <u>ACRES</u> database is updated quarterly for all active sites along with progress reports. <u>Environmental consultants were hired using an open, competitive procurement process compliant with State and Federal regulations</u>. We have used a similar process to procure archeological consultants to ensure sufficient independence from our environmental consultants). We have ensured that field investigation contractors have site-specific <u>Health & Safety Plans</u>, as required by OSHA. We have contacted our Project Officer and/or the VT Division of Historic Preservation for all invasive sampling projects and, as directed, have conducted and submitted <u>Section 106</u> archeological assessments prior to field sampling, and complied with any archeological recommendations.

NARRATIVE PROPOSAL ATTACHMENTS

Documentation indicating committed leveraged resources Letters of Commitment from community organizations

DOCUMENTATION OF COMMITTED LEVERAGED RESOURCES

See attached letters from:

Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development City of Burlington Community and Economic Development Office City of Winooski



Agency of Commerce and Community Development

National Life Building – Davis Building, 6th Floor One National Life Drive Montpelier, VT 05620-0501 accd.vermont.gov [phone] 802-828-3211 [fax] 802-828-3383

November 13, 2017

Mr. Dan Albrecht, Senior Planner Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202 Winooski, VT 05404

Dear Mr. Albrecht:

The Agency of Commerce and Community Development (ACCD) is pleased to support Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission's (CCRPC's) grant proposal for the 2018 EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant. Redeveloping downtown and village center brownfield sites supports the Agency's and the State's collective goals to build strong and vital community centers.

The CCRPC has established a successful Brownfields Program that provides valuable services to the community. We have participated on your Brownfields Advisory Committee and commit to continued participation on the Advisory Committee, aiding in identifying Brownfields sites, and targeting resources to remediate and redevelop those sites.

ACCD regularly collaborates with CCRPC and DEC on remediation and redevelopment projects in Chittenden County. Combining our collective resources, both expertise and funding resources, we have successfully completed numerous projects. We support CCRPC's grant application and look forward to continuing to work with you on the Chittenden County Brownfields Program.

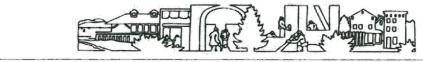
Best of luck with your application!

Sincerely,

Michael Schirling, Secretary

Agency of Commerce and Community Development





COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

149 CHURCH STREET • ROOM 32 • CITY HALL • BURLINGTON, VT 05401 (802) 865-7144 • (802) 865-7024 (FAX) www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo

November 13, 2017

Charlie Baker, Executive Director Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202 Winooski, VT 05404

Dear Charlie:

The City of Burlington's partnership in brownfields development with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) is critically important to the City. Together, we have achieved great success assessing and cleaning up brownfields sites over the past ten (!) years, especially those that are owned by the City and ineligible for funding using our own EPA Community-Wide Assessment funds. As you have indicated, CCRPC is submitting an application for (Hazardous Substances and Petroleum Assessment) that will include several sites in Burlington. As your partner in assisting redevelopment, the City commits the following allocations of resource over the next few years.

Railyard Enterprise District -Through other funding sources (CDBG, General Fund, City Capital Fund), the City will commit approximately 36 hours of staff time to this project in FY19 and a minimum of 36 hours annually in both FY20 and FY21 to assist the CCRPC in working with property owners/potential buyers who need Assessment and then afterwards to be sure the needed Cleanup and redevelopment is consistent with the vision of the City's Comprehensive Plan (aka PlanBTV).

Gateway Block Redevelopment - The City's library, oldest fire station, and civic auditorium are on this block along with a large surface parking lot. The parking lot represents the largest available vacant commercial lot in the downtown, and is contemplated for mixed-use redevelopment under Plan BTV. The City has committed to the redevelopment of these centrally located parcels. Through other funding sources (CDBG, General Fund, City Capital Fund), the City will commit a minimum of 36 hours annually in both FY19 and FY20 to develop and implement public engagement process to inform the Cleanup Planning and redevelopment process.

The above commitments are conservative and represent the minimum that the City will provide. We also will to continue to participate on CCRPC Brownfields Advisory Committee. We are looking into multiple new resources to support this important work, and look forward to continuing out extremely effective partnership with CCRPC into the future.

Sincerely,

Noelle MacKay, Director, Community and Economic Development Office



City of Winooski

Office of the City Manager

27 West Allen Street Winooski, VT 05404 (802) 655-6410

JESSIE BAKER City Manager jbaker@winooskivt.org

November 15, 2017

Mr. Charlie Baker, Executive Director Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202 Winooski, VT 05404

Re: CCRPC Brownfields Assessment Grant Application

Dear Charlie:

The City of Winooski appreciates the work of Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) to support redevelopment and revitalization in our community. In 2012, CCRPC's Brownfields program conducted an inventory of current and historic tanks and spill events in our city. The report and accompanying GIS database has been a useful resource as we plan for downtown redevelopment and on-going street and utility maintenance. In 2017, your program has conducted assessments and assisted with clean up planning at two key downtown parcels. We support CCRPC's selection of Winooski as a target area for Brownfields assessment work. Your proposal has identified several privately-owned parcels as well as City owned ones that are dire need of assessment and cleanup in order to fulfill the City's goal of returning vacant and underutilized properties to a productive role in our local economy.

Winooski commits to working cooperatively with CCRPC's Brownfields program, specifically:

- Assist in marketing the program and in identifying additional sites for assessment and cleanup including matching time from the Directors of Public Works (12 hours@\$45.41 per hour, Planning and Zoning Manager (10 hours @\$31.37 per hour, and an administrative assistant (15 hours @\$22.64 per hour).
- Work with developers and non-profit organizations to ensure projects are brought to fruition in a timely manner while meeting the standards of the City's zoning bylaws and ordinances with 40 hours of matching time for the Planning and Zoning Manager and 15 hours from an administrative assistant
- Total dollar value of time would be \$2,792.62.

usi Balu

CCRPC has made great strides forward to address the problems of contaminated brownfields in Chittenden County. We urge EPA to continue to provide critical funding for this effort by approving the current grant to maintain this momentum.

Sincerely,

Jessie Baker City Manager

LETTERS OF COMMITMENT FROM COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

See attached letters from:

Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation
Lake Champlain Basin Program
Marcel Beaudin, Architect Emeritus
University of Vermont
Redstone Commercial Group

Champlain Housing Trust



November 16, 2017

Dan Albrecht Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202 Winooski, VT 05404

Re: EPA Brownfields Grant Application

Dear Dan,

The Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation (GBIC) again commits to support the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) with their EPA Brownfields Grant Application.

GBIC is Vermont's certified non-profit regional economic development corporation serving Chittenden County. Since its founding in 1954, GBIC has served as a catalyst for economic development in the region, assisting in the creation and retention of sustainable jobs and economic opportunities for thousands of Vermonters. The primary goal of GBIC is to support the creation and retention of value-added, dollar importing jobs that will strengthen the state and regional economies and improve the quality of life for its residents.

I personally look forward to continuing to actively serve as a member of CCRPC's Brownfields Advisory Committee. GBIC will continue to work with CCRPC to market the program and to identify potential sites for assessment and cleanup. By assisting project developers, we plan to encourage the projects themselves that will help drive the necessary remediation needed to return vacant and underutilized properties to a productive role in our Vermont economy.

CCRPC has made great progress with EPA support to address the problems of contaminated brownfields in Chittenden County. We urge EPA to enable the continuation of the current effort by providing additional, critical funding.

Sincerely,

Curtis W. Carter Senior Vice President

Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation



Lake Champlain Basin Program

54 West Shore Road

November 10, 2017

Mr. Charlie Baker Executive Director

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission

110 West Canal Street, Suite 202

Winooski, VT 05404

(802) 372-3213 1-800-468-LCBP www.lcbp.org

Vermont 05458

Grand Isle

Dear Charlie:

The Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) offers its support and commitment to the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission's (CCRPC's) application for an EPA Brownfields Assessment grant to address Petroleum and Hazardous Substances contamination.

The Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP) works in partnership with government agencies, private organizations, local communities, and individuals from New York, Vermont and Quebec to coordinate and fund efforts which benefit the Lake Champlain Basin's water quality, fisheries, wetlands, wildlife, recreation and cultural resources. These efforts are guided by the plan *Opportunities for Action: An Evolving Plan for the Lake Champlain Basin.* The plan was most recently approved in 2010 by the governors of New York and Vermont and the regional administrators of the USEPA. Facilitating brownfield redevelopment is a priority action of the plan.

The LCBP strongly believes in the integration of environmental and economic goals in the decision-making process and in selecting the most cost-effective actions to protect and enhance the resources of the Basin. Brownfield redevelopment supports both of these beliefs. Former commercial and residential sites that are either contaminated, or suspected of being so, are often not redeveloped because of liability concerns. Many of these sites are located in areas of importance to local communities, such as town centers, and their redevelopment can turn an eyesore into a community asset.

The CCRPC has established a successful Brownfields Program that provides valuable services to the community. The LCBP has participated on the CCRPC Brownfields Advisory Committee since the inception of the program in 2006. The LCBP commits to continued participation on the Advisory Committee, assistance in identifying Brownfields sites, and technical expertise in evaluating environmental quality issues related to Brownfields projects. We support CCRPC's grant application and look forward to continuing to work with you on the Chittenden County Brownfields Program.

Sincerely,

Eric A. Howe, PhD.

Technical Coordinator, Lake Champlain Basin Program

15 November 2017

Charles Baker, Executive Director

Chittenden County Regional Planning Commision

110 West Canal Street

Winooski, VT 05404

re: CCRPC Brownfield Assessment Grants

Charlie,

I am an architect and former Commissioner. I have seen how many contaminated strategical parcels of land have been put to good use in the County made possible by the Assessment Grants.

I urge the EPA to continue this funding to continue the recovery of the many remaining sites.

Sincerely,

Marcel Beaudin AIA emeritus



DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

November 6, 2017

Mr. Charlie Baker Executive Director Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202 Winooski, VT 05404

Re: Brownfields Participation Commitment

Dear Mr. Baker:

I am pleased to provide this letter supporting the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission's applications for petroleum and hazardous substances Brownfields Assessment grants. I am also pleased to continue my commitment to participating on the Brownfields Advisory Committee.

I am currently an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Director of Global and Regional Studies at the University of Vermont where my areas of expertise include urban development, transportation, food systems, political ecology, immigrant communities and refugee resettlement. In addition to my knowledge of local urban issues (having served on regional transportation and housing boards) I can offer a cultural perspective of local communities and cultures affected by contaminated landscapes, especially local refugee communities. Specifically, I can advise and assist CCRPC in helping with outreach to the local refugee communities with whom I have been working for over a decade and assist in determining sites for assessment and to help with designing effective general and site-specific public outreach and engagement activities related to remediation and redevelopment.

I am also currently in the midst of a four-year study funded by the National Science Foundation on refugee resettlement in mid-size cities in the US and looking in particular at refugee neighbourhoods. Both the Old North End and New North End of Burlington, the downtown district of Winooski, and several neighborhoods in South Burlington and Essex Junction are examples of such neighbourhoods and I am undertaking extensive community based research in these locations. The CCRPC's

Brownfields program is extremely important to the various initiatives meant to make our communities more livable and sustainable, within Chittenden County and beyond.

I see much evidence of CCRPC's important works in many of these neighborhoods, with projects acting as a catalyst to help revitalize streets and provide new opportunities. Previous projects have had a wide range of impacts, from helping to remediate culturally and ecologically significant community gardening sites, support the development of new mixed-use residential and commercial buildings, helping to rehabilitate the waterfront and generally address contamination issues across the region. The ongoing efforts to continue such work by the organization is one of the reasons that I offer my enthusiastic support and participation to CCRPC. If you have any questions or need for clarification please do not hesitate to contact me,

Sincerely,

Pablo S. Bose, PhD

Associate Professor, Department of Geography

Director, Global and Regional Studies

Chair, Athletics Board University of Vermont



Brokerage Services

Development

Property Management

Construction

November 6, 2017

Mr. Charlie Baker Executive Director Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202 Winooski, VT 05404

Re: Brownfields Assessment Grant Application Participation Commitment

Dear Charlie:

Redstone Commercial Group offers it full support for the application the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC)'s application to EPA for new petroleum and hazardous substances EPA Brownfields Assessment Grants.

Redstone is a leading developer in Vermont and has been active in the development of residential and commercial real estate in Chittenden County for over 20 years and has become one of the most innovative and progressive firms in the region. Over the last 5 years, Redstone has been involved in real estate development and acquisitions totaling nearly \$100 Million of value with more than 900,000 square feet of total building area spanning all sectors of real estate including residential, office, retail, industrial, warehouse, health care, and recreation.

Our work includes planning, financing and construction of mixed-use, mixed-income buildings and neighborhoods, historic restoration, brownfield remediation, and green and LEED* Certified construction. The company has extensive experience working with environmentally sensitive sites in tight urban locations and we often partner with municipalities and non-profit community development organizations in the shared goal of creating well-designed, sustainable and healthy communities.

I am also pleased to confirm my continued participation on the Brownfields Advisory Committee. In this capacity, I am able to bring a developer's knowledge and perspective to CCRPC's Brownfield program, as well as Redstone's experience in redeveloping challenging brownfield properties.

Redstone enthusiastically supports the important work of CCRPC's Brownfields program in our region. We urge EPA to continue to provide critical funding for this effort by approving CCRPC's grant applications.

Sincerely,

Justin Dextradeur Development Manager



November 3, 2017

Mr. Charlie Baker Executive Director Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission 110 West Canal Street, Suite 202 Winooski, VT 05404

Dear Charlie

The Champlain Housing Trust (CHT) is pleased to offer its support as a partner with the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) for its application for an EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant for Petroleum and Hazardous Substances.

CHT develops and manages affordable rental and owner-occupied housing in Chittenden, Franklin and Grand Isle counties and is the largest community land trust in the country with over 4,000 members, 2,000 affordable rental apartments, 550 owner-occupied homes and a staff of 80. A high priority for our development is downtown revitalization and brownfields redevelopment. We have redeveloped six brownfield sites in Burlington in the past 10 years. Most recently, we were able to access your brownfields program to assess properties on Bright St. in Burlington on which we planned to build affordable housing. After clean-up, we built the Bright St. Housing Cooperative on the site which is now home to 40 low and moderate income families.

EPA's funding of these grant applications will enable CCRPC to continue to assess petroleum and hazardous brownfield sites in Chittenden County. These activities are consistent with our focus on downtown and brownfields redevelopment. Knowing that we can rely on the CCRPC to assist with brownfields assessment means that we can seriously consider brownfields sites for redevelopment.

As a partner, CHT commits to supporting CCRPC's Brownfields Program by:

- working closely to identify potential brownfields sites for redevelopment,
- partnering on the site assessments,
- undertaking site redevelopment and
- providing use of our conference room for outreach meetings or discussions with landowners.

CCRPC has established a successful Brownfields Program that is providing valuable services to property owners, prospective developers and the Chittenden County Community. This program deserves continued Assessment Grant funding.

HEADQUARTERS 88 King Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401 | P: 802.862.6244 | F: 802.862.5054

FRANKLIN/GRAND ISLE 13 Lake Street, St. Albans, Vermont 05478 | P: 802.527.2361 | F: 802.527.2373





WWW.GETANOME.ORG

If you have questions about the Champlain Housing Trust's support for your grant applications, please do not hesitate to contact me at 802-861-7307 or amy.demetrowitz@champlainhousingtrust.org.

Sincerely,

Amy Demetrowitz

Director of Real Estate Development

THRESHOLD CRITERIA RESPONSES

Community-wide proposals

1. Applicant Eligibility

Vermont statute authorizes municipalities to create a regional planning commission. Title 24 V.S.A. Chapter 117 §4341. Creation of regional planning commissions

(a) A regional planning commission may be created at any time by the act of the voters of the legislative body of each or a number of contiguous municipalities, upon the written approval of the Agency of Commerce and Community development. Approval of a designated region shall be based on whether the municipalities involved constitute a logical geographic and a coherent socioeconomic planning area. All municipalities within a designated region shall be considered members of the regional planning commission. For the purpose of a regional planning commissions carrying out its duites and functions under State law, such a designated region shall be considered a political subdivision of the State.

The municipalities in Chittenden County founded the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission (CCRPC) in 1966. CCRPC is eligible to apply for this grant as a "Regional Council or group of General Purpose Units of Local Government."

2. Community Involvement

We will work with neighborhood residents, community leaders, local property owners and small businesses to prioritize the assessment work. The CCRPC has completed a demographic profile of Chittenden County and its service area, including detailed mapping of limited English proficiency (LEP), low income, and non-white populations. Public outreach will be tailored to meet the needs of the site and the surrounding community, and may range from formal presentations to follow-up discussions with individuals. However, the best way to reach residents of distressed neighborhoods is to engage them wherever they are, for example setting up informational tables at weekend farmer's markets and local community events such as community dinners. Given the special language needs of the many immigrant communities CCRPC provides translation for written outreach materials and at meetings. Last, the diverse membership of our Brownfields Advisory Committee is a key mechanism to gather community input by providing useful contacts in the both real estate development community and within local neighborhoods and by helping us to fine tune our outreach efforts.

We will report progress at community events and via interviews on local public television programs and press releases to 20+ media outlets (TV, radio, online media, print). More formally, CCRPC will use its website (www.ccrpcvt.org) to report project progress and post copies of final assessments and cleanup & redevelopment plans. We will dovetail our outreach efforts with those of our target communities, Burlington and Winooski, to maximize public participation and information.

OMB Number: 4040-0004 Expiration Date: 10/31/2019

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424									
* 1. Type of Submissi Preapplication Application Changed/Corre	ion: ected Application	⊠ Ne	ee of Application: ew ontinuation		Revision, select approper ther (Specify):	oriate letter(s)):		
* 3. Date Received:		4. Appli	cant Identifier:						
5a. Federal Entity Ide	entifier:			5	5b. Federal Award Ide	entifier:		1	
State Use Only:									
6. Date Received by	State:		7. State Application	Ide	ntifier:				
8. APPLICANT INFO	ORMATION:		L						
* a. Legal Name: Cl	hittenden Coun	ıty Reg	ional Planning	Cor	mmission				
* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 03-6015624			Iг	* c. Organizational DU	JNS:				
d. Address:									
* Street1:	110 West Cana	l Stre	et						
Street2:	Suite 202								
* City:	Winooski								
County/Parish:	Chittenden								
* State:					VT: Vermor	nt			
Province:									
* Country:					USA: UNITED S	TATES			
* Zip / Postal Code:	05404-2194								
e. Organizational U	Init:								
Department Name:				1	Division Name:				
f. Name and contac	ct information of p	erson to	be contacted on m	atte	ers involving this ap	pplication:			
Prefix: Mr.			* First Nam	e:	Daniel				
Middle Name:									
* Last Name: Alb	recht								
Suffix:									
Title: Senior Pla	nner								
Organizational Affiliat	tion:								
* Telephone Number: 8028610133 Fax Number:									
* Email: dalbrecht@ccrpcvt.org									

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424							
* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:							
E: Regional Organization							
Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:							
Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:							
* Other (specify):							
* 10. Name of Federal Agency:							
Environmental Protection Agency							
11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:							
66.818							
CFDA Title:							
Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Cooperative Agreements							
* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:							
EPA-OLEM-OBLR-17-07							
* Title:							
FY18 GUIDELINES FOR BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT GRANTS							
13. Competition Identification Number:							
Title:							
14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):							
Add Attachment Delete Attachment View Attachment							
* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:							
Chittenden County Vermont Brownfields Assessment Program							
Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.							
Add Attachments Delete Attachments View Attachments							

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424					
16. Congression	al Districts Of:				
* a. Applicant	VT-001		* b. Program/Project VT-001		
Attach an additiona	Il list of Program/Project Congression	nal Districts if needed.			
		Add Attachment	Delete Attachment View Attachment		
17. Proposed Project:					
* a. Start Date: 1	0/01/2018		* b. End Date: 09/30/2021		
18. Estimated Funding (\$):					
* a. Federal	300,	000.00			
* b. Applicant		0.00			
* c. State		0.00			
* d. Local		0.00			
* e. Other		0.00			
* f. Program Incon		0.00			
* g. TOTAL	300,	000.00			
* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?					
	ation was made available to the S				
	subject to E.O. 12372 but has no	t been selected by the State	for review.		
c. Program is	c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.				
* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)					
		Debt? (If "Yes," provide exp	planation in attachment.)		
Yes	⊠ No	Debt? (If "Yes," provide exp	planation in attachment.)		
Yes					
Yes If "Yes", provide	No explanation and attach	Add Attachment	Delete Attachment View Attachment		
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